

Definition: Group of infections that are transmitted by sexual contact or any other intimate contact

Scope of the problem:

- 1-Common infections
- 2-Associated manifestations (e.g. Pain, pus, psychological troubles, systemic illness, ...)
- 3-Associated STIGMA
- 4-Not all of them can be cured
- 5-Have implications on pregnancy
- 6-Some infections are associated with genital malignancies

Risk Factors:

- 1-Multiple sexual partners
- 2-Young adults (15-24 years)
- 3-Pregnancy before 20 yrs
- 4-Previous termination of pregnancies
- 5-History of previous STI
- 6-Abnormal cervical cytology
- 7-Involvement in sexual industry

Types:

- A) **Bacterial:** Syphilis - Gonorrhea - Chlamydia B) **Viral:** HPV - HIV - HSV
C) **Protozoal:** Trichomonas vaginalis - Scabies - Pubic lice

Chlamydia:

Epidemiology: obligatory intracellular pathogen

C/P: -Asymptomatic -↑ Vaginal discharge -Often found in screening or with complications

Diagnosis: -Endocervical swab -Urethral swab -First catch specimen of urine

Complications:

- 1-PID
- 2-Perihepatitis
- 3-Reiter's syndrome
- 4-Tubal infertility
- 5-High risk of ectopic pregnancy

Treatment:

- Azithromycin 1 g single dose or Doxycycline 100 mg bd for 7 days
- Contact tracing & Treatment

Implication on pregnancy:

- PPROM
- PTD
- LBW
- Postpartum endometritis
- Baby risk of neonatal conjunctivitis & pneumonia

Gonorrhea:

Epidemiology: Intracellular gram negative diplococci

C/P: -Asymptomatic -GREEN vaginal discharge

Diagnosis: -Endocervical swab -Urethral swab -Rectal swab -Pharyngeal swab

Complications:

- 1-PID
- 2-Bartholin abscess
- 3-Disseminated gonorrhea (e.g. arthritis, pharyngitis,...)
- 4-Tubal infertility
- 5-High risk of ectopic pregnancy

Implications on pregnancy:

- 1-PPROM
- 2-PTD
- 3-Chorioamnitis
- 4-Postpartum endometritis
- 5-Ophthalmia neonatorum

Treatment: -Ceftriaxone 250 mg IM single dose or Cefixime 400 mg orally in a single dose

- Spectinomycin 2 g IM a single dose
- Contact tracing & treatment
- Sexual abstinence during treatment



Syphilis:

Epidemiology: CO → Treponema Pallidum (Spirochetes) , occurs in 3 Stages (1ry, 2ry, 3ry)

C/P:

A) Primary Symptoms:

- (10 – 90) days post infection - Painless genital ulcer (chancre) - Inguinal lymphadenopathy

B) Secondary Symptoms:

- Occurs within 1st 2 years - Generalized polymorphic rash - Generalized lymphadenopathy
- Condyloma lata (warty erosions in the genitals and perineum)

C) Tertiary Symptoms:

- 40% of case after > 10 years - Tabes dorsalis, dementia - Cardiovascular symptoms

Diagnosis:

- Smear (dark fielded microscopy)

- Screening: VDRL - RPR

- FTA-Abs (Fluorescent Treponemal Antibody absorption) : the most sensitive

Complications: Tertiary syphilis (brain damage, heart damage, retinal damage)

Implications in pregnancy: 1-PTD 2-Still birth 3-Congnital syphilis

Treatment:

- 1ry, 2ry or Early latent syphilis → Benzathine penicillin G 2.4 million units IM in a single dose

- Late latent syphilis → Benzathine penicillin G 7.2 million units total, as 3 doses of 2.4 million units IM each at 1-week intervals

*Use Tetracycline in case of Penicillin allergy except in pregnancy → use penicillin after desensitization

- Congenital Syphilis → Procaine penicillin G 50,000 units/kg/dose IM in a single daily dose for 10 days

Human Papilloma Virus:

Epidemiology: DNA Virus, many subtypes: Subtypes 6,11 → Genital warts (Condyloma accuminata)
Subtypes 16,18 → CIN & Cervical malignancy

C/P: -Asymptomatic -Genital warts (Localized or catch on clothes) -Skin irritation

Diagnosis: -Clinical Appearance -Cervical smear -Biopsy from warts

Implications in pregnancy:

-Grows rapidly & regress after delivery

-Excision not recommended as it is very vascular → Bleeding

Treatment: -Podophyllin (Not in pregnancy) -Trichloroacetic acid -Cryotherapy
-Surgery (Excision or diathermy) -Vaccination

Herpes Simplex Virus

Epidemiology: DNA virus, Type 1 → Oral & Genital, Type 2 → Genital

C/P:

-Flu like symptoms -Inguinal Lymphadenopathy -Vulvitis & Pain (Urine retention)

-Small characteristic vesicles on vulva

-**Recurrence:** triggered by: Stress - Sexual intercourse - Menstuation

Diagnosis: -History & appearance of the rash -Culture -Serum antibodies

Complications: 1-Meningitis 2-Transverse myelitis 3-Sacral radiculopathy 4-Disseminated infections

Implications in pregnancy:

-Primary infection (for the 1st time) → Miscarriage or PTD but NO congenital abnormalities
, but in 50% of cases: the baby will have Neonatal Herpes



-Risk of neonatal herpes ↓ with recurrent infection as mother will have antibodies to pass to baby
-Neonatal Herpes is a serious disease: as in 25% the infection is localized to eye & mouth but in 75% of the case, the baby will have Disseminated Infections from which 70% will die and the rest will have long term problems (e.g. Mental Retardation)

Management:

-NO CURE for genital herpes -Acyclovir → ↓ severity of the disease -Simple analgesics & ice packs

*In pregnancy: -Acyclovir (Safe)

-If delivery is within 6 wks from 1ry infection → CS, but if > 6 wks or ROM > 4 hrs → Vaginal

Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)

Epidemiology: Retrovirus (RNA), 2 Types (I & II), Affects cell mediated immunity

C/P:

-80-90%→ asymptomatic carrier -Medial time to AIDS is 10 yrs

-Initial exposure: -Incubation period: 2-4 wks -Flu like symptoms -Lymphadenopathy

-Later: -Generalized lymphadenopathy -Unusual infections: Oral candidiasis, HZV

-Final Stage: -Kaposi's sarcoma -Opportunistic infections -Malignancies -Weight loss -Finally DEATH

Diagnosis: -ELISA -Western Blot -Virus Load -CD4 count

Implications in pregnancy:

-Without ttt, Infection passes to fetus in 15-25% of cases, Risk of transmission ↑ with breast feeding

**Transmission is reduced to 2% by: HAART, CS, Avoid Breast feeding

Treatment: 1-Physchological 2-ART & HAART 3-Vaccines 4-Search for Associated problems

General Principles in Treatment of STIs:

1-STIs hunt in PACKS, so if one is identified → search for other infections

2-Keep patient confidentiality & respect all the time

3-Do not disclose information **except** in cases of **expected harm** to others & do that in a way keeping patient's dignity & respect

4-Contact tracing & treatment is an integral part in management

5-Psychological & behavioral evaluation & counseling

6-Identify associated problems (e.g. Addiction)

7-Follow up is MANDATORY

8-Be aware about implications of STIs in Pregnancy

